GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3837
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2002
POWER SUPPLY TO KARNATAKA ANDHRA PRADESH AND TAMIL NADU
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are overdrawing power bysupplying electricity at a frequency lower than the standard, resulting in collapsing of grids and damage to equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Power Ministry has shown great concern on this issue; and

(d) if so, the directives issued by the Union Government to these States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) & (b) : States of Southern Region including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh andTamil Nadu have been overdrawing power from Central Sector Generating Stations inSouthern Region, from time to time, at frequency lower than 49Hz which is the expectedlower limit of operation of grid as per Indian Electricity Grid Code resulting in furtherdeterioration in grid frequency. The sustained low frequency operation endangers the security of grid and may also be deleterious to equipments. In last year, three grid disturbances of large magnitude occurred in Southern region first on 11.9.2001 second on 23.1.2002 and third on 14.5.2002. Failure of turbine blades in generating units and mal- operation of nuclear power stations has also been reported due to low frequency operation. The southern regional grid has been operating for most of the times at a frequency lower than 48.5 Hz.

(c) & (d) : The issue of low frequency of Southern Region is being looked in to byCentral Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) from time to time. The constituents of Southern Region have been impressed upon to take measures like regulating of theirdemands to be within the availability from their own generation and entitlement from Central Generating Stations, to notify requisite power cuts keeping in view the anticipated power availability and resort to automatic load shedding through under- frequency relays in two/three stages etc., so that operating frequency of the grid could be raised thereby reducing the possibility of grid collapse and damage to equipments.